

Appl. No. 09/914,244  
Amdt. dated July 16, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of May 6, 2004

Amendments to the Specification

In the ABSTRACT, please replace the paragraphs as shown.

~~The invention relates to a method of reading magnetic information by means of a read head including a magneto-resistive rod RMR, which is to be polarized by means of an electrical signal  $I_{rot}$  and serves to supply a data signal  $V_{dat}$  whose variations are representative of the magnetic-field variations to which the read head is exposed.~~

~~The method in accordance with the invention includes a compression step of the data signal  $V_{dat}$ , which compression step is triggered off when a thermal asperity is detected,~~

~~The invention enables amplifiers arranged downstream from the device to be protected against peaks in the data signal, without altering the latter under normal operating conditions.~~  
Application: hard disk readers.

The invention relates to a method of reading of magnetic information. In an example embodiment, a read head includes a magneto-resistive rod polarized with an electrical signal. The magneto-resistive rod supplies a data signal whose variations are representative of magnetic-field variations to which the read head is exposed. Included in the embodiment, there is a compression of the data signal triggered when a thermal asperity is detected.